IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY

ORDINARY ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION

WRIT PETITION NO. 1527 OF 2005

Janhit Manch & Ors. ...Petitioners

Versus

Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation & Ors. ...Respondents

Petitioner No. 2, appearing in person, present.

Mrs. Priti Purandare for Respondents No. 1 and 2.

CORAM: DALVEER BHANDARI, C.J., &
S.J. VAZIFDAR, J.
DATE: AUGUST 10, 2005.

P.C.:-

1. The petitioners have filed this petition, in which they have prayed that respondents No. 1 to 3 be directed to file the details of advertisements and ground rates for commercial, religious, educational and political categories of banners, posters, hoardings, sky signs and illuminated hoardings for different areas in a tabular form.

2. Pursuant to the show-cause notice issued by this Court, a reply-affidavit has been filed on 26th July, 2005 on behalf of the Corporation. It is indicated in the affidavit that the present petitioner No. 2-in-person filed earlier Writ Petition No. 2570 of 2003, and raised similar contentions, which were answered by this respondent by an affidavit dated 27th November, 2003. That petition was disposed of by the Court on 25th February, 2004. It is mentioned in the reply-affidavit that the political parties were required to obtain permission earlier, which was granted in accordance with the policy framed for commercial purpose. It is also mentioned that according to the new policy framed, the concerned political party is required to make an application in the prescribed form with complete details as to where such board or banner is required to be displayed along with details regarding the name and address / ward of such political party. The concerned political party can apply for maximum 10' x 3' cloth banner and 8' x12' board. Such banner or poster / board can be displayed for maximum five days. No permission for displaying / sticking posters on walls is granted to any person. The display of such board or banner shall be about 12' in height and restricted for 25

metres away from the chowk of any signal junction. In the affidavit, they have given different rates which they are charging for hoarding, banners and posters of the political parties. This, precisely, was the information which the petitioners want from the respondents.

3. Petitioner No. 2, in person, submitted that there are some cases where the political parties are not paying for putting up hoardings. He would be at liberty to bring it to the notice of the concerned authority as expeditiously as possible, and we hope and trust that the concerned authority would take action in accordance with law. No further directions are necessary in this petition. It is accordingly disposed of.

CHIEF JUSTICE

S.J. VAZIFDAR, J.